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## SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR ON-SITE EVENTS IN THE PROCEDURAL SKILLS LAB

### DESCRIPTION

The guidelines by which the Simulation Core (SC) can resume on-site activities in the Procedural Skills Labs (PSL) and minimize the risk to all simulation participants of exposure to the COVID-19 virus.

### RATIONALE

To clarify the guidelines by which the College’s Education Simulation Core (SC) conducts skills training on-site at Baylor College of Medicine Main Campus while COVID-19 restrictions are in place. These guidelines are designed to ensure on-site events and activities are delivered in a way that provides a safe working and learning environment for faculty, learners, and SC staff.

### STAKEHOLDERS AFFECTED BY THESE GUIDELINES

These guidelines apply to all faculty, learners, and SC staff who will be on-site for simulation activities and events. All participants are required to read, understand, and comply with these guidelines.

### DEFINITIONS

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** – equipment that is worn to minimize exposure to hazards that cause serious injuries or infections. SC event participants are always required to wear face masks and face shields. Supplemental PPE (gowns, shoe covers, etc.) may be required at the discretion of the SC staff. Appropriate disposal containers will be provided in the PSL.

**On-site Simulation Activities** – procedural and clinical skills training for learners that uses manikins, task trainers, or other equipment, and is held in the SC facilities. On-site simulation training is considered essential for safe clinical practice and cannot be gained by any other hybrid or online modality.

**Cleaning** – the action of making something clean and free of dirt without chemical use.

**Disinfection** – cleaning with a chemical to destroy bacteria and other contaminants on surfaces.

**EPA** – The Environmental Protection Agency’s mission is to protect human and environmental health by regulating with different rules and guidelines.

**CDC** – The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is one of the major operating components of the Department of Health and Human Services that protect Americans from health, safety, and security threats.

**COVID-19** – a pandemic disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) that can spread from person to person.

**PPE** – personal protective equipment that is worn to minimize exposure to hazards that cause serious injuries or infections.

### **RESPONSIBILITY**

It is the responsibility of the SC executive director to ensure all on-site faculty, learners, and SC staff adhere to the guidelines.

### **SAFETY GUIDELINES**

**Health Screening:** All event participants must complete online health screening before entering the building. The College will screen for temperature using infrared monitors at building entrances (Cullen Main and TMC Garage 6). Only learners scheduled for an event are permitted into the SC laboratories and classrooms.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** All individuals who enter the main campus building must wear a cloth face mask covering the nose and mouth. Vented masks, neck gaiters, and bandanas are not allowed.

All event participants in the PSL labs must wear a face mask and a face shield. Supplemental PPE (gowns, shoe covers, etc.) may be required at the discretion of the SC staff. Appropriate disposal containers will be provided in the SC laboratories and classrooms.

**Handwashing:** Participants are required to wash their hands (per CDC guidelines) before and after the event. Hand sanitizer is also available in the simulation labs.

**Supplies:** Essential cleaning supplies required for on-site simulation activities include hand sanitizer and EPA approved disinfectant wipes or disinfectant spray (70% alcohol solution) used with clean disposable cloths.

**Physical Distancing:** Events are scheduled with the minimum required and maximum allowed participants. SC laboratories and classrooms are laid out (furniture and equipment) to maximize all participants' ability to maintain a physical distance of at least six feet.

For activities that limit the opportunity for physical distancing, the event will be choreographed in a way that ensures the best use of space between participants. Face shields (in addition to face masks) will be required for this type of activity.

The maximum occupancy for each space in the PSL is based on physical distancing standards and optimal room layout. A summary of the attendance density allowed in SC spaces is shown in Addendum A.

**Scheduling:** Event sessions are scheduled with breaks that allow SC staff to clean and sanitize surfaces, materials, and equipment. Scheduled breaks also decrease airborne exposure between groups. Learners will be scheduled to arrive, staged in a designated area, and called into the laboratory or classroom at the appropriate time. Learners are not allowed to congregate in the SC labs or classrooms, and they must leave promptly at the end of their session.

**Cleaning:** Cleaning and decontamination of all equipment and surfaces are completed following College, CDC, and equipment manufacturer guidelines. PSL cleaning guidelines are outlined in Addendum B.

## ADDENDUM A

### SIMULATION CORE OCCUPANCY GUIDELINES

#### Procedural Skills Labs (PSL)

Room	Description	Maximum Occupancy
414SA/415SA	Classroom	8 in the combined room
416SA	FLS/FES Stations	5
416C/422C	OR	8 in the combined room
425C	OR	7
461E	SimMan	3 + Simulation Operator
Corridor C	Staging	7-8
Corridor A	Staging	7-8

## **ADDENDUM B**

### **SIMULATION CORE CLEANING AND SANITATION GUIDELINES**

#### **General Cleaning Guidelines**

1. All participants are required to wash their hands before and after simulation events. Hand sanitizer is also available in the simulation labs.
2. The simulation labs are cleaned before the start of each event, between learner groups, and at the end of the event.
3. Approximately 15 minutes is allowed between labs and some learner groups to clean and disinfect surfaces, supplies, and equipment. The time required to clean depends on the number of rooms used, the number of participants, and the proper and consistent use of PPE. When available, two sets of equipment are procured for the event so one can be cleaned while the other is in use.